

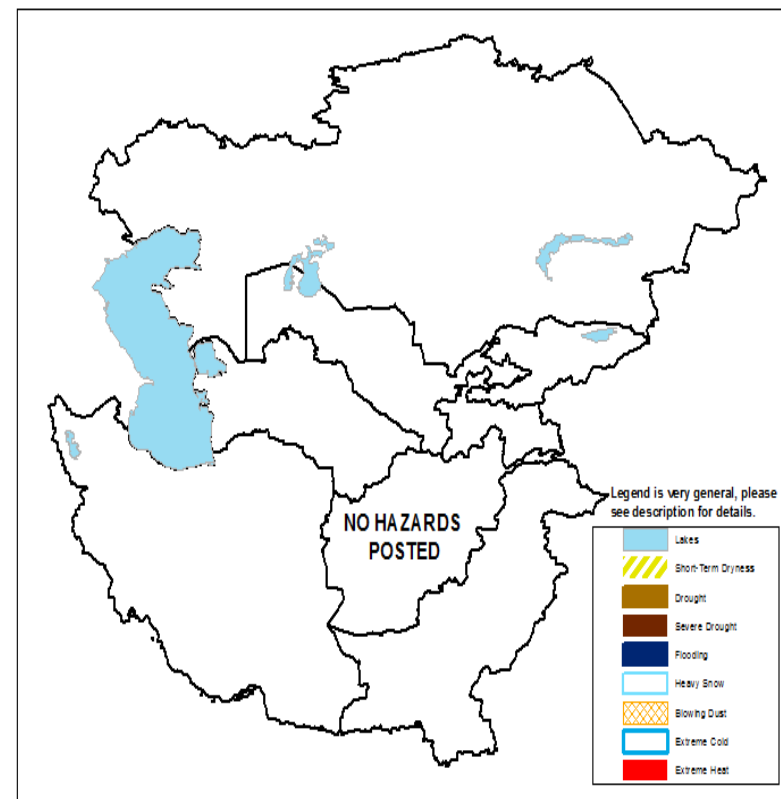
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET March 27 – April 2, 2013

Temperatures:

From March 11-20, 2013, temperatures were above normal across Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and the lowlands of Afghanistan, with positive anomalies ranging between 1 to 8 degrees Celsius. Meanwhile, normal to slightly below normal temperatures (1 to 2 degrees Celsius) were observed across the central highlands and northeast mountains of Afghanistan. For the next week, above normal temperatures are forecast to continue across south Central Asia, except across higher elevations in northeastern Afghanistan, northern Pakistan and eastern Tajikistan, where below normal temperatures are forecast. Minimum temperatures are likely to fall below -20 degrees Celsius over the coldest regions. Above freezing minimum temperatures are likely across the majority of southern Central Asia.

Precipitation

During the past week, heavy precipitation (>50mm) occurred across portions of northern and eastern Afghanistan, eastern Tajikistan, and northern Pakistan. The highest weekly precipitation totals (>100mm) were located along the Afghanistan/Pakistan border in eastern Afghanistan and northern Pakistan. Light to moderate precipitation (5-25mm) was recorded across the rest of Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The precipitation has continued to help partially reduce deficits over dry portions of south Central Asia, although, snow water volume remains below-average across basins in central Afghanistan and Tajikistan. During the next week, drier conditions are forecast. Although, localized moderate to heavy rains could occur across portions of Afghanistan. Heavy rains in eastern Afghanistan combined with spring snow melt could cause localized flooding during the next week.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned. Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424. Questions about the USAID FEWSNET activity may be directed to Gary Eilerts, USAID Program Manager for FEWSNET, 1-202-254-0204 or geilerts@usaid.gov.